

**DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY FOR PATENT APPLICATION**

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that my residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name, and I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled, **MESSAGE-BASED DISTRIBUTED SYNCHRONIZATION IN A STORAGE SYSTEM**, the specification of which is attached hereto.

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above. I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulation, § 1.56. I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, § 119/365 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate disclosing the subject matter claimed in their application and having a filing date (1) before that of the application on which priority is claimed, or (2) if no priority is claimed, before the filing date of this application.

Prior Foreign Application(s)

<u>Number</u>	<u>Country</u>	<u>Day/Month/Year Filed</u>	<u>Priority Claimed</u> ( ) Yes ( ) No
_____	_____	_____	_____

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, § 120/365 of any United States application(s) listed below and PCT International Applications listed above or below, and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, § 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56 which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application.

<u>(Application Number)</u>	<u>Day/Month/Year Filed</u>	<u>Status (Patented, Pending, Abandoned)</u>
_____	_____	_____

I hereby appoint John M. Gunther, Reg. No. 26,175; Leanne J. Fitzgerald, Reg. No. 40,606; William R. Clark, Reg. No. 29,523; Penelope S. Wilson, Reg. No. 29,751; Krishnendu Gupta, Reg. No. 37,977; and Robert Kevin Perkins, Reg. No. 36,634; Donald W. Muirhead, Reg. No. 33,978; and Anne E. Saturnelli, Reg. No. 41,290 as attorneys and/or agents to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith.

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I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Inventor's signature  Date 9/17/03

Full name of first inventor (given name, family name): Brett D. Niver

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( X ) Additional inventors are being named on separately numbered sheets attached hereto.

**DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY FOR PATENT APPLICATION**  
(continued)

Inventor's signature Steven R. Chalmer Date 9/17/2003

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Inventor's signature Steven T. McClure Date 9/17/03

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